

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-06 AID-05 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /070 W

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O 092335Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5091

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 3855

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PE, US

SUBJ: PERUVIAN CONGRATULATIONS TO VIETNAMESE COMMUNISTS

REF: STATE 106919

1. I MADE ORAL PRESENTATION OUR PROTEST TO ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL JOSE DE LA PUENTE THIS AFTERNOON, FOLLOWING CLOSELY TEXT CONTAINED REFTEL BUT OMITTING LAST SENTENCE PARA FOUR IN ACCORDANCE WITH TELECONS WITH MESSRS. RYAN AND WEBER. NEEDLESS TO SAY DE LA PUENTE QUICKLY PERCEIVED SERIOUS NATURE OF PROTEST AND ASKED ME TO GO OVER THE VARIOUS POINTS MADE A SECOND TIME SO THAT HE COULD MAKE NOTES. HE SAID HE FOUND THE TERMS OF THE PROTEST HARSH AND OF COURSE WOULD HAVE TO REPORT THEM IMMEDIATELY TO ACTING FONMIN RICHTER AND TO PRIME MINISTER.

2. HE POINTED OUT THIS WAS SECOND PROTEST FROM U.S. IN THREE DAYS AND GAVE ME QUICK RUNDOWN OF OUR PROTEST IN WASHINGTON EARLIER THIS WEEK CONCERNING PRE-OASGA MEETING OF LATINOS. HE SAID THAT FORUUNATELY THAT PROTEST WAS DEFUSED BY COMPROMISE ACTION, BUT HE WAS CONCERNED ABOUT HIS GOVERNMENT'S REACTION TO TODAY'S PROTEST. I POINTED OUT THAT THE STARK TERMS OF THIS PROTEST SHOULD BE READ AS AN INDICATION OF THE DEPTH OF CONCERN IN WASHINGTON OVER PRESIDENT VELASCO'S VIETNAMESE DECLARATION. I ADDED THAT THE RATHER CONSTANT BARRAGE OF
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ANTI-AMERICAN PROPAGANDA AND STATEMENTS IN THE PERUVIAN NEWS

MEDIA AND PRONOUNCEMENTS BY SOME PERUVIAN OFFICIALS AT HOME AND ABORAD HAVE REACHED A LEVEL OF CONSIDERABLE CONCERN TO US HERE AND IN WASHINGTON.

3. AMBASSADOR DE LA PUENTE ASKED WHETHER THE FACT OR NATURE OF THIS PROTEST WOULD BE MADE PUBLIC IN THE U.S. I TOLD HIM THAT I WOULD CERTAINLY NOT EXPECT SO, THAT THIS WAS A MATTER BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS. HE THEN ASKED WHERE I COULD BE REACHED TOMORROW BECAUSE HE FELT THAT THE WOULD PROBABLY WISH TO GET IN TOUCH WITH ME. HE SAID THAT HAD OUR PROTEST COME IN WRITTEN FORM HE WAS SURE IT WOULD HAVE ELICITED AN IMMEDIATE VERY SHARP RESPONSE. HE DID NOT KNOW EXACTLY HOW SOON OR WHAT FORM A RESPONSE TO OUR ORAL MESSAGE WOULD TAKE, BUT SEEMED TO EXPECT ANOTHER CRUNCH OF SOME SORT. AS A PRELIMINARY COMMENT, HE SAID THAT OUR PROTEST COULD BE INTERPRETED AS AN INTERVENTION OR QUESTIONING OF A SOVEREIGN PERUVIAN DECISION OR STATEMENT THAT THEY HAD EVERY RIGHT TO MAKE.
DEAN

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